

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Government Accountability and Oversight

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

4:10 P.M.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present: **Chairman:** **CM Ward-Pugh**
 Vice Chair: **CM Fleming**
 Members: **CM Tandy, (Left at 5:15 p.m.) CM King, CM Kramer,**
 CM Henderson, and CM Downard

Also Present: **CM Brent Ackerson**

Chairwoman Ward-Pugh began the meeting by introducing the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was established.

Special Items For Discussion

Ethics Workgroup Report and Discussion of Recommendations

Chairwoman Ward-Pugh gave a brief overview of the Workgroup and the two main topics which were the definition of a Metro Officer, and the definition of a family member of a Metro Officer. Handouts were given to the Council Members. (Attached). The following was also discussed:

- Process of the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee
- Possibility of waiting until two weeks after the Committee passes the ordinance out of Committee to put it on the Council Agenda
- Definition of a Metro Officer
 - Addition of 6 people
 - Financial impact
 - Any position as determined by a person identified in subsection (A) of this section that has the authority to enter into contracts over \$10,000 in value or make purchases of goods or services over \$10,000 in value
 - How flexible will this ordinance become if different titles are used that are different but have the same responsibilities or authorities
 - Any person nominated or appointed by the Metro Mayor or the Metro Council to a Metro Agency who has regulatory authority or has independent authority to expend public funds
 - Should a legislative assistant to a Metro Council Member be included
 - Training
 - Hiring, firing, and disclosure
 - Definition of a related party and what should be disclosed in a business partnership
 - Financial disclosure
 - Transparency
- Definition of Family Member
- Definition of Immediate Family Members
 - Immediate Family has to be disclosed
 - Family Members don't have to be disclosed - i.e. brother in law or cousin
 - Easier for the Ethics Commission to make decisions
 - Insert Family Member throughout where immediate Family Member is stated
 - Metro Officer's household - Married Couples, Life Partners, etc.
- Non-profits
- Definition of Business Organizations
- Related Party
- Advisory Opinion from the Ethics Commission
- If any doubt, disclose ahead of time
- Volunteer organizations etc. that the Council Members are a part of should be excluded
- Making public aware of where their interests are

Chairman Ward-Pugh stated that at the next meeting an Ordinance amended by Substitution by the Work Group will be presented for one of the following ordinances. The other ordinance will die. Also another document with possible amendments relating to discussions today which may amend the Ordinance amended by Substitution will be discussed.

AGENDA

O-36-03-09 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21 OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT CODE OF ORDINANCES [LMCO] RELATING TO ETHICS. (Reintroduced 9-10-09)

Status: In Committee - Held
Committee: Government Accountability & Oversight
Primary Sponsor: Marianne Butler
Jon Ackerson

Discussion: This item remained **Held**.

O-156-09-09 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21 OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT CODE OF ORDINANCES [LMCO] RELATING TO ETHICS.

Status: In Committee - Held
Committee: Government Accountability & Oversight
Primary Sponsor: Kenneth C. Fleming

Discussion: This item remained **Held**.

Motion to Adjourn made by Jim King. Without objection the Meeting adjourned at 5:38 P.M.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the Metro Council Meeting on February 25, 2010.**

KQG